

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJ: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC YOUTH HOLD LEADERSHIP MEETING IN PISA

1. FROM FEB. 5 TO 9, MEETING OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) YOUTH, BILLED AS ASSEMBLY TO "REFOUND MOVEMENT", HELD IN PISA. KEY ISSUES SUCH AS MILITARY CIVIL RIGHTS, ABORTION, UNIVERSITY REFORM WERE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION. MEETING PROVIDED FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH TO GATHER SINCE THE DECAPITATION OF THE ELECTED LEADERSHIP IN 1975 BY THEN PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI. MEETING ALSO GAVE CURRENT PARTY SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK IN TUSCANY (MEETING HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR PERUGIA BUT MOVED TO PISA AT THIS INSISTENCE).

2. CONSULATE OFFICER PRESENT AS OBSERVER AND NOTED THAT YOUTH DID NOT APPEAR TYPICAL. PROPOSAL CALLED FOR EACH PROVINCE TO PROVIDE ONE WOMAN, TWO STUDENTS AND TWO WORKERS BUT OF 300 PRESENT, STUDENTS IN VESTS AND TIES GREAT MAJORITY. WOMEN, WORKERS, TEENAGERS, BEARDS, JEANS AND LONG HAIR NOTICEABLE BY ANSENCE. ZACCAGNINI RECEIVED WARM WELCOME BUT IN SPITE OF HIS SPEECH WHICH CALLED FOR YOUTH TO AVOID VICES OF ELDERS AND TO BE PART OF PARTY OF SERVICE RATHER THAN POWER, MANY OF YOUTH ENCOUNTERED IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MOROTEL, FANFANI, ETC.

3. MEETING ORGANIZED FROM ABOVE AND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

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SEEMD TO MIRROR DC ESTABLISHMENT. NEW LEADERSHIP, IF IT CAN

EMERGE, IS FACED WITH ESSENTIAL DECISION ON FUNCTION OF GROUP.
SHOULD IT BE A TRAINING GROUND FOR FUTURE LEADERSHIP (A LA
COMMUNIST YOUTH GROUP) OR IS ITS ROLE TO SERVE AS FORUM FOR
YOUTH WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN POSITIONS BEING TAKEN WHICH ARE
NOT ALIGNED WITH PARENT BODY? FROM THIS FIRST LEADERSHIP
MEETING HELD IN ANTICIPATION OF PROPOSED JUNE YOUTH CONVENTION,
IMPRESSION IS THAT YOUTH MOVEMENT IN DC IS IN DANGER OF BEING
MERELY PUBLIC RELATIONS INSTRUMENT OF PARTY POWER STRUCTURE.
GORDON

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